

KC DX NEWS

ABØX-EDITOR

KCDXC Website: <http://www.kcdxclub.com/>

March 2019

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NEXT KCDXC MEETING: March 25th

The February meeting will be held on Monday, March 25, at 6:00 p.m. - Central Resource Library, 9875 W 87th St, Overland Park, KS 66212. The program will consist of a presentation by Jeff, ACØC, about the setup and layout of his station. The program will be followed by the famous Pie Eating Contest at Perkins after the KCDXC meeting.

LAST CALL FOR CROWNE PLAZA ROOMS FOR DAYTON 2019!!

The meeting on March is the absolute deadline for payment for a room at Dayton. **WØZAP must have your check no later than the March 25th meeting.** The KCDXC only has a few rooms left for Dayton 2019. The cost for rooms for 2019 will remain the same as in the past at \$149 for a standard block of three nights over Hamvention weekend starting on Thursday, May 16, with check out on Sunday morning, May 19. Double rooms are available for club members with roommates or singles for one bed rooms. Contact at rickp098@gmail.com, to make your room reservation for Hamvention 2019. Contact WØZAP if you have any questions. As in the past we must prepay the first night's stay prior by the end of March 2019.

TIME FOR 2019 KCDXC DUES!

Members can pay their 2019 KCDXC dues, \$20, on our web age: (<http://www.kcdxclub.com/>) with Paypal. Members can bring cash or check to the Feb. 25th meeting! Dues may also be mailed to ABØX at 7871 Webster Ave., Kansas City, KS, 66109. Remember, to participate in WØAR DX Contest and the NØSS Contest Award program, you must be a paid up KCDXC member.

KCDXC DXCC HONOR ROLL

Call	Mixed	CW	Phone	DIGI	IOTA	160	6 M DXCC	DX Challenge
K0CS	357	320	352			233	85	2377
AB0X	357	353	349	230		222	23	2280
W0GJ	354	344	354	292		236	20	2799
W0JLC	353	351	331			102		
N0RB	352	346	350				23	1806
K0CA	350	349	348	329	318	110		2627
NX0I	350	349	347	244		208	4	2502
N0CWR	349	348	349	312	860	179	35	2816
K0HQW	349	347	333			33		1352
K3PA	350	348	345	314		165	36	2696
KS0DX	347	318	347	129	360			2218
K4SV	346	340	344	337		301	87	2852
AC0A	348	318	348		838		15	2223
K0VXU	347	334	330	255	172	138	2	2267
K0GY	344	340	344	290			5	2312
KB0X	336							
W0QQ	333	217	331	153	151	42		1516
K0THN	329	314	284		179	1		1849
KE5BR	330	177	297	79				742
WA0WOF	330							
K4SX	326	269	314	146		52		1617
W0FS	322	270	295		657	181		1770
W0MB	322	194	320	230	143	1		1163
K0AP	316	307	297	230	657			1968
AA0MZ	312	290	292	220	532	44	20	1852
K0XM	308	261	266	42		30	1	1164
AC0C	302	292	233	220	79	87	2	1822
KG0UA	283	277	116			4		
NS0D	263	219	142	130		3	2	833
W0XE	247	215	193	14				887
W0DR	220	29	154	3		5	7	
N9GB	203							
KS0AA	172	75	84	154		3		507
KY0F	140	2	140				1	
AA0LV	112							
WD0SRI	102	6	55			1	1	102
KR0CK	57	2	53			1	1	57

*Red listing indicates Top of the Honor Roll in that respective class. Totals are with deletions.

NOTE: When changes of DXCC totals are sent in to me, they are immediately updated in the next month here in the newsletter. Send to ab0x@kc.rr.com . Please only one update a month.

FLASH! BREAKING NEWS!

FCC RATIONS THE IONOSPHERE

By Egbert Vincent Montague*

In an unprecedented action, the Federal Communications Commission announced this week that all transmissions by ham radio operators would be rationed effective April 1, 2019. Officially known as Article 10 Ionosphere Rations Act, it will set limits on radio transmitter use by citizens. Hams would be allowed a maximum of 2 hours of transmission time per week. The FCC stated that our ionosphere is decaying at an alarming rate and would soon be dissolved if long winded hams ops continue to transmit at a high volume. The FCC stated that scientists have long believed that the constant bombardment of the ionosphere would force it to dissolve and chip away and no radio communications would be feasible if the federal government didn't step in and limit the use of radio transmitters. The FCC also pointed out that the rationing action leaves plenty of use time of ionosphere use by our military and national intelligence organizations and that they would not be affected by this new action.

FCC officials also said the rationing of the ionosphere would only apply to HF signals and most transmissions above 50 MHz. would be exempt from rationing rules. Transmitters above 6 Meters seem to have little known effect on the ionosphere for some unknown reason. One assistant at the FCC was quoted as saying, "Just listening to most 2 Meters transmissions easily confirms this."

Numerous other countries have been preparing to put in place similar restrictions for their amateur operators for several years. The U.K., Germany, France and the Netherlands have been debating restrictions on ionosphere decay for several years. Russia doesn't support the restricted use of the ionosphere and has stated in recent U.N. speeches by their ambassador that they will "manufacture" their own ionosphere. The IARU has made no comment on the topic.

Knowing that this limitation of transmit time may be challenged by right wing individualist groups in the courts, and a long and drawn out adjustment period is expected to result in the USA. The leader of the Freedom Users of the Ionosphere, "Bubba" Sartin, said in a press release last Friday that this was just another typical socialistic government action.

"Bubba" Sartin said, "First they tried to take away our guns, and now they are coming after our transmitters!"

Sartin bashed the FCC further on their enforcement plan. He said, "Them old boys in Washington don't have a clue how tough us hams are. They will have to pry my mic button out of my cold dead hands!"

The FCC has asked the ARRL to coordinate with the FCC to implement a plan for monitoring the length of transmitter time by amateurs. The ARRL plans to issue stop watches and timers to all O.O.'s to time transmitter use. They also plan on ramping up the training of new O.O.'s for more monitoring. The ARRL stated last week that the act of rationing the ionosphere use could be good for ham radio and would have little real effect on amateur radio.

"The term rationing should not be seen in a negative way," said ARRL Vice Chairman, Howard Crump. "DXing and contesting can still be done if ops ration their transmitter use. Contesters can save up many hours of operating time needed for various contests by

careful rationing their allotted transmitter time,” Crump explained. Fearing unused transmitter time could be sold on the black market, FCC officials said, “Selling time allotments would be nearly impossible to monitor, so hams must be trusted to do the right thing and keep their allotted time for their own personal use.”

An FCC official said in D.C. this week that it would be very hard for the government to provide the man power to monitor completely all ham transmission time, so it encourages amateurs to self-police the new restrictions. One ham radio group said it could envision hams spending huge amounts of time and resources to monitor fellow hams, especially if there was any ill feeling between the hams involved.

A well-known ham radio contester in KS said, “I can’t wait to put a timer on certain members of a nearby competing contest club! We have suspected they have been cheating for years. The old term “Rubber clock” logging will be a real issue now!”

One well known DXer from NJ was quoted to say, “The rationing action might actually be good for ham radio. 75 Meters could actually be used again for DXing. Who will miss the nightly Iowa Pork Net or the Old Men Against Everything Net on 40 Meters? The new rationing plan should open up plenty of space for serious DX use on the bands. ”

However, one spokesman for the United Hams for Freedom, Jimmy Eimac, said the new rationing act could force hams to buy and start building supersized Linear Amps because they will have less time available to call DXpeditions and rare foreign stations.

“Godzilla like Amps will rule the airways again, because hams can only afford to call once or twice for new ones” said I.B. Louder, President of the QROo Club.

Also today, numerous commercial manufacturers of Linear Amplifiers have announced huge price increases for 2 KW+ amplifiers in the amateur market. Godzilla Radio Products has announced that they are hiring a complete night shift at their factory site in Tonganoxie, KS, to increase production.

Until April 1, when the Rationing Act takes effect, one can safely say the airwaves will be full of conversations about the new FCC regs. Stay tuned for more on this new Article 10 Ionosphere Rations Act and how it will be changing our world of DXing.

*Egbert Vincent Montague, PhD, Visiting Professor of Physics at University of Ft. Smith, AR.

Watch for additional New FCC announcements: “20 Meters Has Been Sold to China,” and “FT8 May Cause Sterility.”

EMAIL ADDRESSES TO UPDATE DXCC KCDXC HONOR ROLL

Send your updates for the KCDXC Honor Roll to the Editor’s main email address: ab0x@kc.rr.com . For updates on the KCDXC web page send your updates to W0XE at ddevins@kc.rr.com . W0XE and AB0X share with each other all updates, so sending to one really means sending to both!

Do not hit “reply” from the newsletter delivery. It is a separate email only maintained for easy delivery of the monthly newsletter and is checked only once a month!

Follow these directions for timely responses from either record keeper!



February 25, 2019

Kansas City DX Club Meeting Minutes

Carmack Community Room, Central Resource Library

Overland Park, KS

The February, 2019 meeting of the Kansas City DX Club was called to order by President **Russ Woirhaye, KØVXU** at 6:00 pm CST (February 26, 2019 0000 UTC).

Agenda -

- Greeting and Introduction of Guests
- DXing and Contesting
- Business
- Feature Presentations **KE5BR's** Elegant CW Paddles
K3PA Power Line Noise Location and Elimination
- Closing World Famous Pie Eating and Tall-Tale Telling @ Perkins

Introductions -

We introduced ourselves. **AB00 John Ford** introduced himself as a guest.

Special Announcement

Duke Neeland, W0QQ, reported that **Clark Ashworth, KB0EL** had recently been involved in a serious accident being run over by a snow plow truck at his home. Our thoughts and prayers are with Clark at this time.

DXing and Contesting

DXing for March

Based on NG3K website: <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

A lot of good DX is planned. Somalia, Bhutan, Galapagos, Polynesia, Guantanamo, Lesotho, Juan Fernandez, North Cook, Uganda, Togo, Jersey, and Niue are expected highlights.

DX on the low bands has been really great lately.

Contesting for March

Based on WA7BNM website: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

Highlights reported were ARRL DX SSB, several state QSO parties, Stew Perry Topband Distance Challenge and CQWW SSB WPX.

Business

1. Dues are due - \$20 - deliver your payment to **Mike Crabtree, AB0X**. Cutoff date is April 1.
2. **W0AR** 2018 contest standings were reported and awards were handed out. Thanks to **Steve, W0MW** for creating the nice awards which consisted of insulated drinking cups with the winner information etched on the side. Check the newsletter for the publication of the results.
3. **N0SS** 2018 contest standings were reported and awards were handed out for this contest as well. Rules changes for this contest were also presented.
4. Jay Duthler, **KE0U**, helped with the transition of the club reflector to groups.io in addition to Rick, **W0ZAP**. (The secretary apologizes for leaving Jay off of the credit list for working on this.)
5. Get your room reservation payments at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Dayton if you plan on using one of those rooms. (\$149 payable to Crowne Plaza)
6. **Russ, KØVXU**, showed the completed plaque which has brass plates with most of the past Dayton Hamvention CW Pileup Contest winners engraved. This will be on display in our suite at the Hamvention this year. Thanks go to **Steve, W0MW**, for this work also.

Programs

Rob Maberry, KE5BR Telegraph Keys by **Valery Pavlov, RA1AOM**

Rob talked about how he learned of Valery and his work. Rob got clearance from his wife

to buy a key from him so he bought two. He had them at the meeting to show. Valery refers to his keys as “instruments”.

Valery makes keys that are true works of art. One can pretty much get whatever he wants custom made. Base material, design, call sign engraving, etc. are available.

Here are photos of Rob’s “instruments” from the KE5BR QRZ.com page.



Check out Valery’s where he links to videos showing his keys



QRZ.com web page several youtube.com in action.

Drew Vanoda-Smith, K3PA - Line Noise Location and Elimination

Drew gave a very interesting talk regarding interference noise location and elimination.

- Why worry? If you can’t hear them, you can’t work them.
- Identify – many possible sources, not just power lines
- Make audio recordings of the noise(s)
- Tools needed – portable shortwave and VHF am capable radios
- Diagnose
- Locate
- Tools needed - VHF Noise Tracker
- Cure – contact power company or owner of source as located – establish good relationship of that party
- Presented a couple of examples of problems found and cured
- Stated K3PA results in Topeka and Tonganoxie QTHs

Drew has agreed to place this presentation on the club website. Look for that in the near future.

Announcements

The presenter for March will be **Jeff, AC0C – Station Layout.**

For April we will have **Lee, K0LW – Thoughts?**

If you want to update your DX status on the web site or in the newsletter contact, **Don, W0XE** or **Mike, AB0X** .

If you need a ride or you know of someone who needs a ride to our meetings let **Russ, K0VXU** know. We would like to make sure everyone who wishes to attend can do so.

The meeting was adjourned at about 7:45pm.

Charles Hett, **K0THN** KCDX Club Secretary

ARRL DXCC CARD CHECKERS!

If you would like to take advantage of the card checking services of either of the two certified ARRL DXCC Card Checkers at a KCDXC meeting, please let them know so they can come a little early to the meeting to go over the cards with you.

Contact **Bill, AC0A**, at freeland66215@sbcglobal.net or **Mike, AB0X**, at ab0x@kc.rr.com .

DX NEWS & VIEWS

BY AB0X

As we head toward Fall in the southern hemisphere the info from the Bouvet Dxpeditio becomes more critical. Almost all DXpeditio to that part of the world have occurred in our Winter months(Dec., Jan., Feb.) or their Summer. How this will affect propagation is uncertain for us in central USA. I personally remember working the rare Antarctic DXpeditio in mostly hours of darkness. Already, it is daylight now past 7 PM local time.

The upcoming DXpeditio Group to Bouvet has received lots of criticism from various sources. Read their latest statement. We are in a wait and see mode now.

Bouvet Update:

3Y0I BOUVET DXPEDITION NEWS. The following was posted on the 3Y0I Web pages, dated March 7th: "The 3Y0I Team re-assembles in Cape Town, while operators return to South Africa. Meanwhile, the rest of the team members who are currently in ZS, finalize the very last vessel preparations. Stay tuned for further news coming soon."

Also posted on March 8th, on (Bouvetoya.org): "A COUPLE OF BITTER WORDS --[edited] Important update regarding information sources regarding the 3Y0I DXpeditio. Since now on, the only website providing direct information about our mission is (<https://bouvetoya.org>) our DXpeditio website. Wayne, N0UN, responsible for managing our (rebeldxgroup.com) website had to step back due to personal reasons. He has recently been deliberately attacked by a number of American hams using words 'scammer' and other offensive terms and we do all agree he didn't deserve such behavior. Due to the above, we will not update that website anymore. The updates on 3Y0I will also be available at our Facebook pages: (facebook.com/bouvetoya.org) and (facebook.com/rebeldxgroup) + at Twitter: (twitter.com/Bouvetoyaorg) To all those individuals calling names and calling our project a 'scam' we kindly remind a couple of facts.

Our expedition is covered by private funds and it's been a very independent, personal project. Unlike other major DXpeditio, for instance, 3Y0Z, we did not receive any foundation sponsorship and WE WILL not ask nor accept ANY. The only third party money we received up to date (less 5% of our total budget, the entire rest is covered by private funds) come from 100% VOLUNTARY donations of individual supporters we are very grateful for their trust in our enterprise! Unlike those organizers, we will not accept any unclear rules of funding DXpeditio by foundations' board members who are participants of the same DXpeditio applying for grants! As for us, the lack of transparency, twisted rules and sponsoring themselves with other foundations' and individual sponsors' funds is simply unacceptable.

Yes, we are in Cape Town for over 4 months now, and according to our plan, this has been a good decision making. Unlike 3Y0Z leaders, asking for almost \$1 mln donations for over 2 years of preparations, but at the same time not being able to inspect their vessel in full in prior of departure (which outcome we all know), we are able to examine each and every bolt and screw at our ship and we personally helped to fix past technical problems and we got involved in preparations to obtain full SAMSA's strict and difficult to pass certification by end of February. Note: Nobody rebuked their 2 years of preparations and asking for more and more money that as final result landed into a bin. We are being criticized for staying and working in Cape Town for our own money, although we do that on purpose: we want to take a closer look at the preparations in person to make things more than twice sure we don't miss something.

These bitter words of ours may hurt, but we feel like being deliberately criticized and attacked on purpose just because we've been brave enough to be solitude standing, independent, willing to activate top DXCC #2 and being able to do that. Unfortunately, it's so clear that there are other competitive DXpeditio's participants among those individuals who attack us and our friends. They are generally speaking the ones who didn't succeed recently, and now trying to torpedo our plans, using some tricks

and methods not only among hams, but also here in South Africa. Actually, we consider that once back to Cape Town from Bouvet, we will write a long story about all backstage events and will address them to those rude troublemakers.

As bringing to a close, we fully guarantee we will NOT read all comments like those anymore and they will all be totally ignored by the 3Y0I Team. They bring absolutely no input to our plans and their authors may keep their thoughts for themselves we don't need you! Moreover, we will continue our independent plans and projects. We devote our private time, resources, knowledge, family time and money in something that is not their invention and they have absolutely no rights to impact our plans. They may feel free to get started with their own, separate DX projects nobody, including us, will stop them, too. Good luck!

As a bottom line: if you belong to that group of individuals not wishing us best of luck please do not call us while 3Y0I will be on the air. We don't need you nor your support. Your QSL card neither. We will enjoy the trip regardless of its final outcome much more than you, and we'll have nothing to regret. Activating Bouvet Island our goal and sacrifice, not yours."

Currently, no dates have been announced yet, and as of print time we are not sure if the "Atlantic Tuna" has done their sea trial yet, but we have been watching the tracking Web sites daily. Again, the Web sites to track the Atlantic Tuna are:

<https://www.vesselfinder.com/?imo=7225051>

<https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/details/ships/shipid:5786633/mmsi:601070100>

For more details and updates, we suggest to watch the following Web pages:

<https://bouvetoya.org> http://jouban.jp/3y0i_ja (For JA stations)

<https://www.facebook.com/bouvetoya.org> <https://www.facebook.com/rebeldxgroup>

<https://twitter.com/Bouvetoyaorg> .

OTHER REGIONS:

5V, TOGO (Reminder/Update). Members of EIDX Group will be active as 5V7EI from Main Street, Togo, between March 14-26th. Operators mentioned are Dave/EI9FBB (Team Leader), Jeremy/EI5GM (Co-Leader), Declan/EI9HQ, Pat/ EI9HX, Enda/EI2II, Thos/EI2JD, Alain/EI2KM, Niall/EI4CF, Jim/EI4HH, Norbert/DJ7JC, Heye/DJ9RR, Alain/F5JTV, John/F5VHQ, Jamie/M0SDV and Gabi/Y08WW. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes.

Suggested frquenices are:

CW - 1818, 3518, 7018, 10118, 14018, 18078, 21018, 24898 and 28018 kHz

SSB - 3768 (QSX Dw/3800+NA), 7118, 14218, 18158, 21218, 24958 and 28518

RTTY - 14088, 18108 and 21088

FT8* - 1840 (QSX 1908 for JA), 3577, 7053, 10133, 14083, 18108, 21088, 24918 and 28078

* F&H mode, except 160m

They plan to have up to 5 stations on the air. This is the same group that activated 9N7EI and 7Q7EI earlier in 2018. QSL via M00X0 OQRS, direct, by the Bureau (OQRS) or LoTW (3 months after operation). For more info and updates, watch:

<https://5v7ei.com>

60, SOMALIA (Update). Ali, EP3CQ, who works for the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) and not the United Nations in African Union Mission to Somalia [AMISOM] (as we reported), in Mogadishu, is once again active as 60100 until March 24th. Activity will be limited to his spare time on 80/40/30/20/17/15/10 meters using SSB and FT8. Last time he suggested everyday between 1800-2000 East Africa Time (EAT) and on the weekend (Friday and Saturday) between 1400-1800. Equipment is a Yaesu 857D into a Tarheel Little II (currently active), and Sandpiper MV-10. He informed OPDX that he has updated his information including new QSL information on QRZ.com. QSL direct to: Ali Solhjoo, C/O

Dr. de Vivanco, Schnackenburgstr. 3, Berlin 12159, Germany. QSL cards will be replied to on a bi-monthly basis. IRC's are not accepted. See QRZ.com for more info and picture of his station. Flash news will be posted via Twitter: @ep3cq

8Q, MALDIVES. Darek, SP3DX, will be active as 8Q7DM from Lankanfinolhu Island (AS-013) between April 1-7th. Activity will be on 20/17/15/12/10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via SP3DX.

A3, TONGA. Masa, JA0RQV, will once again be active as A35JP from Tonga. This time he will activate Tongatapu Island (OC-049) between March 16-27th. The QTH is Nuku'alofa (from a seaside cottage), in the capital of Kingdom of Tonga. As it is a business trip, Masa will enjoy ham radio during his spare time. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. His equipment is an IC-7300 (w/100W) into a vertical antenna. QSL via his home callsign, by the Bureau, direct (SASE w/1 IRC), ClubLog or LoTW. For more details and updates, visit his Blog page at: <http://blog.goo.ne.jp/rqv>

JA0RQV, Masa, will be QRV as A35JP from Tongatapu Island (OC-049) starting March 16th. He will be operating from a seaside cottage in Nuku'alofa until March 27. Activity will be on CW, SSB and FT8 on 3.5 through 50 MHz, using an IC-7300 running 100 watts into a vertical. He prefers QSL requests be made using Club Log. Logs will also be uploaded to LoTW. You can also QSL via the JA QSL bureau or direct to his CBA.

C5, THE GAMBIA. Operators Sigi/DL7DF (& XYL Sabine), Csaba/DH7KU, Manfred/DK1BT, Annette/DL6SAK, Frank/DL7UFR and Jan/SP3CYY will be active as C5DL from The Gambia (WW Loc. IK13PJ) between April 1-15th. They will have three stations on the air on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digitals modes. Their equipment consists of a Elecraft K2 transceiver, two Icom IC7300 transceivers, two OX1000 power amplifiers, one other power amplifier, a vertical for 160 and 80m, a 40m loop, a 30m loop, a Spiderbeam for 20m through 10m, Loop antennas for 20/15/10m and a vertical for 60m. Pilot for this DXpedition is Bernd, DF3CB. QSL via DL7DF, direct or by the German DARC Bureau. They will upload the full logs of the DXpedition to LoTW within 6 months after the DXpedition. For more details and updates, see: <http://www.dl7df.com/c5>

E6, NIUE. Janusz, SP9FIH, will fly to Niue Island (OC-040) on March 16th, and will probably stay in Mutalau village on the northern coast of Niue. He will be active as E6AF and his activity will be on 160/80/40/30/20/17/15 meters using SSB, RTTY and FT8. Suggested frequencies are:

SSB - 7095, 14195, 18140 and 21295 kHz

RTTY - 1845, 3585, 7045, 10145, 14095, 18095 and 21095 kHz

FT8 (F/H mode) - 1845*, 3585, 7045, 10145, 14095, 18095 and 21095 kHz

* listening for JA - 1908

The length of his stay is not known yet, but he states that it "should be few weeks long". QSL via SP9FIH or by ClubLog's OQRS (preferred). For more details and updates, see: <http://www.e6.dxpedititions.org>

E6, NIUE (Update/Warning). Alex, 5B4ALX, will be active as E6ET from Niue Island (OC-040) between March 19th and April 2nd. Activity will be on 160/60/40/30/20/17/15/10/6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. Suggested frequencies are:

CW - 1818, 7008, 10106, 14010, 18065, 21012 and 28022 kHz

SSB - 7120, 14285, 18136, 21285 and 28470 kHz

RTTY - 7055, 10140, 14080, 18106, 21090 and 28070 kHz

FT8 - 1842/1908, 5358, 7055, 10140, 18106, 21090, 28070 and 50300 kHz

* More details (suggested time/modes/bands/FT8) available on the Web page below.

He will also be in the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 30-31st) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (20m)/Low-Power entry. QSL via 5B4ALX, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW. For more details and updates, see: <http://www.5b4alx.cloud/e6et-niue-2019>

WARNING (From Alex): During my DXpedition I always have a notepad and a pen next to me; those who think to work the DXpedition from remote stations in other continents with the intent to take advantage of it without specifying the real prefix/homecall will be marked, logged and then I will delete any QSO in my log from that station, even if some were lawful. I'm smart enough to understand when a station calls remotely and properly enough not to allow anyone to be clever at the expense of others.

If you care about your QSOs in the log, avoid using remote stations!!

ST, SUDAN. Arik, EK6DO, who works for the United Nations World Food Program as telecommunications and IT Officer, is now in Khartoum, and is active as ST2/EK6DO for the next 3-4 years. He has requested the callsign ST2DO and hopes to have approval by the local TRA soon. Activity will be on 40/20/ 15/10 meters using CW and SSB. Reportedly, he has an Icom IC-756Pro III running 100 watts into a Hustler 6BTV. QSL via K6EID. Look for more details and updates, at: <https://www.qsl.net/ek6do>

T32, EASTERN KIRIBATI. Ken, KH6QJ, will once again be active as T32AZ from Crystal Lodge, Kiritimati Island [Christmas Island](OC-024) between April 16-23rd. Activity will be on 80/40/20/15 meters, but will focus on 40 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via his home call, direct or by the Bureau.

XZ, MYANMAR (Update). Yuki, JH1NBN, who makes frequent trips back and forth from Myanmar and Japan, will be active as XZ2C between March 20-28th. Activity will be on 15/12/10/6 meters on all modes but must run QRP (25w). QSL via his home callsign.

YJ, VANUATU. Geoff, ZL3GA, will once again be active as YJ0GA from a new beachfront location in the North of Efate, Efate Island (OC-035), between July 21st and August 3rd. Activity will be holiday style on 80-10 meters using a FT-450D and a AL811H amp (which should improve the signals). Modes will be predominately CW and FT8 with some SSB as well. He will also have a CrankIR and an End Fed Half Wave vertical. QSL via his home callsign, direct, ClubLog's OQRS (Bureau & direct) or LoTW (preferred). For more details, especially from his past operations (with pictures), see his QRZ.com page.

Z6, KOSOVO. In a first joint activity of Kosovon and Turkish operators, look for Z66Y to be active during the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 30-31st) as a Mutli-Single entry. QSL via Z62FB. Operators mentioned are Ahmet/ Z63CAB, YL Donjeta/Z63DBB, Dardan/Z63DBM, Furkan/TA7AOF and Golkem/TA7AZC. This is a YOTA (Youth on the Air) and all operators are Young!!

THANKS, OHIO/PENN DX BULLETIN!

A special thanks goes out KCDXC Member WA0WOF, Kay, for sending over to the Editor the following article from Ham Adventures, September-October 1993 issue. If you think you are a Good CW Op, compare your skills to the young man in this article. -Editor

LEFT HANDED and RIGHT HANDED!

*By Arnie Chick - WK1H
Auburn Maine - 26 years in amateur radio*

My father, was not a ham, but was chief telegraph operator on first shift, at the Hallowell, Maine Railroad Station, in 1951. He once won a cw contest, for railroad operators and was given a watch FOB with 60 wpm engraved on it.

I hung around the railroad station all my spare time, beginning at age 8, that same year. I learned Morse code all on my own, so dad gave me two old straight telegraph keys to play with.

I soon learned to send and receive CW at about 25 wpm and when dad was out of site, I would copy train orders at that speed, and write them down on order forms to help my father out.

Dad said I could operate the station all by myself when I reached my 9th birthday. So on August 22, 1952, I operated station (HW) Hallowell, Maine all that day with dad looking over my shoulder, and I caught him smiling once or twice.

We both went to see the railroad superintendent and I begged him to work after school and weekends for 50¢ an hour, as a telegraph operator, on second shift. He said, sure, if I could pass "his" special qualification sending test, which was, sending a train order at 25 wpm using two straight keys, alternately, left handed for dahs and right handed for dits. He walked away laughing, telling my father, "that ought to keep Arnie quiet for awhile, HA! HA!"

Well, I practiced doing that same thing. I pumped one key with my right hand for a dit and I pumped

I brought in my two straight keys and proceeded to send a "test" train order using two keys and two hands alternately at about 25 wpm.

the other key with my left hand for a dah, literally. Thus • - • was, right hand key, then left hand key, then right hand key to make the letter R, using both keys alternately.

I practiced until about one year later when school let out for the summer. Then I went back and asked the superintendent again for a second shift job as sole CW operator. He reminded me about his "special" qualification test he gives to all "cocky young squirts". I told him, "I could do it!" He said, "WHAT?"

I brought in my two straight keys and proceeded to send a "test" train order using two keys and two hands alternately at about 25 wpm. Well, the superintendent's cigar almost fell out of his mouth! He didn't say much, except he would talk to my father later.

Well, two weeks later the railroad company was "stuck" without anyone to work the second shift at the Hallowell station, where I spent most of my time. The superintendent called me into his office and said, "This is going against my better judgement, but I'll give you a two week probation period and ten dollars per week. Now don't let me down!"

In the meantime, the local newspaper had an advertisement for a telegraph operator in Hallowell, second shift, MY JOB! The ad stayed in the paper for two weeks but nobody showed up.

So the superintendent told me, "I could continue working until they hired 'a real man, not a kid'." After two more weeks the ad disappeared from the newspaper, and I kept hoping and praying that the superintendent would not call me into his office.

Well, that very day came real quick and I was scared and shaking when I went in to see him. I knew I was safe and had a job for the summer, when the superintendent said, "Arnie, when you get a break in train orders on the telegraph, I would like my new 1953 Ford convertible washed at least once a week."

I asked, "All summer!" He yelled, "YES!, Now get out of here!"

The Quote Spot

*A good listener is usually thinking about something else.
— Kin Hubbard*

*Get someone else to blow your horn and the sound will carry twice as far.
— Will Rogers*

More 

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K3ZN KEYS

